Viet Nam War

Rouses Americans to Action

Al Hubbard at the Versailles Assembly

NOT long ago, with deep emotion we heard the indignant voice raised by an American from the rostrum of the Versailles World Assembly against Nixon's new atrocious war method, in Indochina "the third war", "the technological war" charaterized by the extermination of human life. The protester was Al Hubbard, an ex-Air Force captain sent to Viet Nam to fight the aggressive war of American arms dealers in Indochina and now Chairman of the Viet Nam Veterans Against the War and an executive member of the People's Coalition For Peace and Justice, an anti-war organization embracing many sections of the American people.

It was for me a pleasant surprise to meet Al Hubbard in Hanoi in those days of March when he paid a visit to North Viet Nam.

I clasped his hand, that of "an American who had committed crimes against the Vietnamese people," as he himself put it: "I'am here not to seek redemption or to mend the error because of US involvement in Viet Nam! No. From the bottom of my heart, I can tell my Vietnamese friends that on behalf of the Viet Vets against the war, I am in Viet Nam, like elsewhere on this globe to act for an end to this lousy, unpopular and tragic war. I was with the criminal flights which later I myself condemned as a disgusting, an insane obedience to order. These senseless flights have wakened me up."

Before me Al Hubbard appeared simply as a coloured American, gentle and ingenuous, with a soft and pathetic voice. I got a better understanding of the US imperialists, those cunning war maniacs who had pushed him into "feasts of blood," claimed by Nixon as "America's finest hours."

The conversation settled down in mutual understanding. In a moving tone, Hubbard told me, "I'm unable to converse with your language so as to express all that I want to speak, but I think that with my practical deed, I should be able to make you understand our opposition to the Nixon administration." He asked us to see a film he had brought. The film was about the struggle waged by Viet Vets outside the White House in Spring 1971. On the screen, the White House was seen shrouded in a lonesome, gloomy funeral veil. The streets were thronged with cars. Viet Vets walking on crutches or moving in wheel-chairs showed up at a rally in front of the Executive Mansion. They wore their combat fatigues and carried toy-rifles. They staged scenes of GI slaughter in Viet Nam. Children, women, old men presumedly killed by GI's littered the ground. The narrator sarcastically called it facts about Americans' defending the freedom and self-determination of the South Vietnamese. Al Hubbard was filmed addressing an anti-war rally in front of the Capitol. Followed a lively scene of officers and men, veterans of the Viet Nam war who successively took the floor to stigmatize Nixon and return their medals out of a feeling of outrage at the disservice they did to their country, as these had been soaked with the blood of the Vietnamese people. The film ended with a sit-in demonstration outside the White House and the scene of hermetically closed vans carrying war veterans to prison camps — the symbol of the police state and Nixon's fascist nature.

Al Hubbard showed us newspapers run by anti-war GI's and leaflets, posters and pictures about the crimes and aspects of the war termed by Nixon as Vietnamization. He produced 2 leaflets with a circulation larger than any newspaper published in the States. The first showed immense rice fields in Viet Nam and a ploughing woman with flights of aircraft overhead raining down their bomb loads, and bore this caption "Military targets in Viet Nam!"

The second carried a map of Viet Nam with US aircraft roaring in while on the ground, war-weary American soldiers are being pulled out; the footnote says "The truth about the ending of US involvement in Viet Nam."

Al Hubbard recalled an incident which happened on *Thanksgiving Day* in November 1971 at an American church. While Nixon was praying for God blessings to GI's in Viet Nam and bragging about his troop pull-outs and the winding down of the war, Viet Nam Vets asked him what they were to thank him for, since the war, far from ending within 6 months as promised by the president hopeful, was still continuing 3 years after and even extended to Cambodia and Laos. An one-legged war veteran pointed one of his crutches towards Nixon and yelled, "Thanks for this?" Those present angrily shouted, "Nixon the criminal!" The *Thanksgiving Day* ceremony ended with a police charge to clear the way for the US President to drive back to the White House.

What has roused Americans to action? Al Hubbard gave the answer by citing the case of the sister of Alvarez, the first US pilot captured at Quang Ninh, in North Viet Nam, on Aug. 5, 1964. She arrived in Versailles as member of the US delegation. She told everybody there "I very much like to see my brother again, but what I like more, and I am prepared to act for, is an end to the Viet Nam war."

Many of our buddies have been arrested, Hubbard continued, but they felt very proud, because they had militated for an end to the war. Thousands of our friends have been sent to prison, but our thought turns to millions of South Vietnamese who have been slain by bombs and shells, by toxic chemicals, by savage torture, only because they resolutely fought for freedom and justice. The anti-war movement in America has taken Viet Nam as a heroic example to guide its activity. I don't try to dramatize things! But Viet Nam really has awakened American conscience.

The wife of a captured US pilot received a letter from her husband from Hanoi. The pilot told his wife that he had been given good treatment and good care. She was deeply moved. She saw in newspapers pictures of Vietnamese children killed by American soldiers and planes. In a big anti-war demonstration on April 2, 1971, she read out her husband's letter and showed the pictures of victimized Vietnamese children, commenting "My husband has been humanely treated — a criminal given good care in Viet Nam. Yet these innocent children, like ours who commit no crime, have been killed on Nixon's orders!"

Al Hubbard also briefed us about the movement for tax evasion in protest against the Viet Nam war. This war has touched off such things as the credibility gap, disrespect for law, anti-draft actions, the national week of disobedience in the armed forces, the Viet Nam moratorium, etc. We see this as acts of conscientious objection, he said. In fact, Nixon has become a president who has lost much of his authority. That the administration has gone fascist amply proves that the law has been flouted. Just as Nixon has complained, "the system is crumbling," for the simple reason that the administration is running into strong popular resistance. With keen interest, Hubbard told of the growth of the anti-war movement in the states, particularly the prospects of this Spring Offensive (April 1972). It is not in the Americans' habit to prophesy, but I'm sure it would be a hot spring anti-war offensive that may rock the United States in this election year.

Glancing at his watch, Hubbard shook his head and said, "Time is pitiless indeed. I would like to tell my Vietnamese friends many more things, but time is running out. I only want to add this: It seems there is some doubt about the anti-war movement in the US. It is even believed that this movement has been defused by Nixon's 8 points. This is a hasty conclusion. For us, Nixon's 8 points are merely a consummate trick in his presidential term of office. It is comparable to his well-known skill at poker. In the states, his 8 points have fallen into oblivion. While the 7 points of the PRG of the RSVN are becoming our program of anti-war action. You may say I have humbled myself too far. The fact is that we are really moved. Your 7 points are a noble gesture. US crimes against Viet Nam are so horrendous and so disgusting that we do not deserve such a treatment. With this sincere feeling, we are working with might and main for the realization of your 7 points. We have decided to join in the Vietnamese people's fight and will not relax our efforts for one minute so long as the Viet Nam war continues."

Saying goodbye to us, Hubbard said with firm confidence, "In a not distant future, I'll land at Tan Son Nhut airport (Saigon). I would then repeat Nixon's words 'This is one of America's finest hours,' but in quite a different sense, for the Americans who will come to Viet Nam at that time are really close friends. The flower of Viet Nam-America friendship that will blossom tomorrow has been grown by us right now with our blood and our energy."

I held his hand rightly in mine, the hand of an American friend, with full understanding and deep emotion. War has fomented and accumulated rancour, but the militant friendship, noble and beautiful, between the nations will put down the flame of war and wash off all traces of hatred.

THANG LOI

Singer Carol Feraci indicting Nixon's Viet Nam war at a reception in the White House

An Insolent Challenge to Public Opinion

Excerpts from a statement by the PRG Foreign Ministry on the US sabotage of the Paris Conference

US President Nixon on March 24 openly admitted that he had ordered the US delegate at the Paris Conference to declare indefinite suspension of the conference and set very insolent conditions for the resumption of talks at this conference.

This is a very brazen act of sabotage of the Paris Conference on Viet Nam, a new, extremely serious step taken by the US government to sabotage the negotiations on the Viet Nam question, following many other US acts.

It is known to everybody that for more than three years now, the Nixon administration has feverishly carried out the "Vietnamization of the war" policy and the "Nixon doctrine" in Indochina to prolong, intensify and expand the war of aggression. Particularly, of late it stepped up the air war on an ever larger scale against both North and South Viet Nam as well as Cambodia and Laos.

Obviously, the US has been seriously sabotaging the negotiations at the Paris Conference. But, US President Nixon has made black white by claiming that the US acts of sabotage were intended to "set the talks off dead center." This is a brazen challenge to peace-and justice-loving public opinion in the world including the United States. The US, in fact, does not want to seek a negotiated solution to the Viet Nam issue. Instead, it is continuing the "Vietnamization" of the war in the vain hope of gaining a position of strength in negotiations in order to force the South Vietnamese people to accept its insolent conditions.

For the independence and freedom of the fatherland, the South Vietnamese people together with the entire people of Viet Nam are determined to resist US aggression and at the same time persist in the Paris Conference on Viet Nam in order to obtain a correct solution for the Viet Nam issue on the basis of the guarantee of the Vietnamese people's national fundamental rights and of the South Vietnamese people's right to self-determination.

The PRG of the RSVN firmly demands that the US government give up immediately all the acts of sabotage against the Paris Conference on Viet Nam, seriously negotiate and positively respond to the seven-point solution of the RSVN PRG of which the two key points were elaborated on February 2, 1972.

As long as the US imperialists obdurately carry out the war of aggression in Viet Nam, continue the brutal policy of "Vietnamization of the war," maintain their neo-colonialist domination over South Viet Nam, continue their attacks against the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam, intensify and expand the war of aggression to Cambodia and Laos, refuse to seriously negotiate at the Paris Conference on Viet Nam, the South Vietnamese people together with their countrymen throughout the country, are determined to persist in their fight till total victory, in order to frustrate the US aggressive policy and "Vietnamization of the war" plan; at the same time they stand shoulder to shoulder with the fraternal Cambodian and Lao peoples with a firm resolve to defeat the "Nixon doctrine" in Indochina.

VIOLENT OUTBURST OF PROTEST AGAINST US – SAIGON REGIME IN TUY HOA

OVER 16,000 people in Tuy Hoa, provincial capital of Phu Yen, turned out in the streets on the morning of March 10 in protest against the Thieu administration's murder of two pupils named Ha Trap and Duong Van Canh.

The demonstrators besieged the Tuy Hoa police sub-sector and shouted the slogans: "Down with the murderers," "The murderers must pay for their bloody debts"... A number of wicked police agent who used tear-grenades and truncheons against the protesters were fiercely fought back by the parading pupils and disabled puppet armymen with stones and weapons captured from the enemy.

The actions were countenanced by a large number of regular troops and civil guards stationed in Tuy Hoa. Many Saigon troops gave the marchers with their rifles to help them resist the cruel thugs. Greatly scared by the people's violence and resolve, several police agents hurriedly took to their heels or dug in their bunkers. The protesters hurled hand-grenades on the fleeing bravos, killing a number of them. They also blew up the Tuy Hoa police sub-sector, burned all its documents, captured or destroyed 115 firearms of various types, set afire a number of jeeps and motorcycles and liberated nearly 20 people arbitrarily detained by them.

The provincial governor of Phu Yen at the head of group of wicked bullies hurried to the scene to deal with the demonstration, but they were beaten off and the province chief's car stoned by the marchers before they could act. Frightened by the masses' anger let loose the governor flew off with the Tuy Hoa police head on a helicopter.

The ebullient protest drive is still going on.

Accused turned into accusers: 10 students indicting Thieu's fascist regime at its Saigon military tribunal.

IN THE CITIES

o In the recent past, many Saigon papers have protested the Nguyen Van Thieu administration's taking advantage of the peasants' difficult circumstances to buy more rice at cheap price to step up the US imperialists' "Vietnamization."

Under the title "On the Rice Problem, Who to Believe?", the paper *Duoc Nha Nam* (Vietnamese Torch) wrote on March 16: "The Thieu government has been resorting to all tricks to rake off rice in the countryside but the peasants' resistance has been stiff. The (Saigon) economy ministry has many a time amended the regulations on the purchase of home rice, but also has on many occasions recognized the poor results of its purchasing attempts."

o Over 200 Lambretta motorcyclo-cab drivers on the Saigon-Bay Hien line took to the streets on March 17 to denounce foreman Tran Quoc Buu, agent of Nguyen Van Thieu, for embezzling the money they had collected for their poor mates. In a sympathy action, the Trade Union of Saigon Lambretta Drivers decided to break off from the Christian Confederation of Labour manipulated by Tran Quoc Buu.

o Representatives of the 12 Cao Dai sects in Saigon issued on March 28 a statement urging that the US government immediately make public a time-limit for complete troop withdrawal, that Nguyen Van Thieu resign and that an interim government be founded to enter into negotiations for the restoration of peace. This government will prepare and hold general elections. The statement also called on other sections of the people in the US-Thieu-held areas, irrespective of class and religion, to rally within a common front against the US-Thieu.

o The paper *Dien Tin* (Express) reported on March 23 that due to US-Thieu illtreatment and brutalities the condition of Huynh Tan Mâm, President of the General Asosciation of Saigon Students, has been greatly worsening.

o The "Movement for Women's Right to Live" in Saigon has recently released a press communiqué strongly protesting against Thieu's military court for refusing to immediately set free Madame Ngo Ba Thanh, President of the Movement.

"The Movement for Women's Right to Live", the communiqué stressed, "holds that the attitude and acts of the Thieu regime are inhuman. It deliberately murders patriotic and honest people."

o Forced to postpone the March 23 trial of 10 Saigon students, the Thieu authorities brought on March 29 before the military tribunal 12 other Saigon students and pupils under the charge of having taken part in demonstrations against Nguyen Van Thieu and against US presence in South Viet Nam, and of harming public security." Once more, in face of the pupils and students' firm opposition, the Thieu clique had to postpone the trial, but they cynically sentenced 4 of the 12 accused pupils and students to from 6 to 15 months' imprisonment.

Public opinion in the South Viet Nam cities castigated the decision as a gross challenge and a dastardly deed of the US-Thieu against the urban youths.

o On the morning of March 29, a large number of Saigon pupils and students demonstrated, displayed placards and sang patriotic songs, in front of the Saigon "National Assembly" seat, against the Thieu clique's illegal trial of 12 students and pupils at the military court, and for the release of those students still detained by them. More than 30 students and pupils broke through the police cordon into the "Lower House" and forced their petitions into its Secretariat chief's hand.

o On March 19, the Buddhist Women League, the Long Hoa Buddhist women, Buddhist priestresses and Buddhist women employees held a meeting with over 500 people to commemorate the Two Sisters Trung in An Quang pagoda. The First Vice-President of the Buddhist Women League called upon all women to follow the Two Sisters Trung's example and stand up against US aggression, for national salvation. "In this emergency," a Buddhist dignitary stressed, "when the country is put to fire and sword, each Vietnamese must be animated with the spirit of the Two Sisters Trung: to gain independence and freedom, one must repel foreign aggression."

o Of late, the Saigon Court has condemned the editor of *Cuu Nuoc* to four months' imprisonment and 450,000 piastres' fine for having run "pro-Communist neutralist articles." The three authors of the articles were given two months' imprisonment and 100,000 piastres' fine each. Four other papers were fined 550,000 piastres.

Not long ago, the weekly bulletin *Doi Dien* was closed down for six months and its director Chan Tin condemned to six months' imprisonment and 300,000 piastres' fine. One still remembers that last year Father Chan Tin got a six-monthed term for having published "pro-Communist" articles.

THE REAL CULPRITS ARE THE US AND THIEU CLIQUE

MRS Ngo Ba Thanh, chairman of the Woman's Movement for the Defence of the Right to Live and co-Chairman of the People's Front for Peace in South Viet Nam, was once again arbitrarily arrested while taking part in the drive against the Oct. 3, 1971 one-man election. The US and Thieu reckoned that by apprehending the leaders of patriotic movements they could stifle the opposition.

It turned out that mass movement had been growing in proportion to the level of their brutality. In South Vietnamese cities, particularly in Saigon and Hue, actions mounted by students, intellectuals and other segments of the population flared up one after another with increasing violence.

The US and Thieu clique have been moving heaven and earth to cope with the situation. They charged Mrs Ngo Ba Thanh with three counts: harming public security, foudding illegal organizations, and possession of literature likely to weaken the morale of the army.

Mrs Ngo Ba Thanh was tried by the Military Tribunal of the Third Army Corps Area on March 22 though she was suffering from serious asthma. When the Military Police had her brought to the dock on a stretcher, Saigon and foreign correspondents and acquaintances of hers were visibly surprised to find that she had grown so thin. It was clear that she had been tortured. Several among them burst into tears and cried: "Criminals!", "Fascists!".

Madame Ngo Ba Thanh (×) endictment of the US-Thieu at a press conference near the Saigon military tribunal

Both barristers and members of the Lower House acting as witnesses expressed concern about Mrs Ngo Ba Thanh's health, which did not prevent the tribunal from holding its hearings. The dependant had a serious fit of athma: she turned utterly pale and could hardly breathe. Many of those present suggested that the session adjourn. The proposal of Mr Thanh, her husband, that she be sent to hospital to receive first-aid care, was supported by many people including American journalists, but was turned down by the Military Police.

However, as public feeling was mounting, the chief justice ruled that Mrs Ngo Ba Thanh be brought back to Thu Duc jail and withdrew in a hurry, forgetting even his brief case and cap. When she had recovered, thanks to the attention of members of her family, Mrs Ngo Ba Thanh said to all the lawyers present: "We all are jurists. How can we tolerate seeing justice flouted as it is? We should defend it, and fight for our families, our fellow-countrymen. Law is made for everyone, justice for the entire people. Now that the Saigon regime which claims to rule by law violates justice, how can we stand by with folded arms?". "I have been tried many times," Mme Ngo Ba Thanh went on, "though I haven't done any wrong. Like all our countrymen, I'm proud of our successes in the fight against dictatorship and war, for justice, liberty, peace and independence for our people."

She eventually held a press conference in the very tribunal hall. To Vietnamese and foreign correspondents she denounced: "The United States government has brought war here against the Vietnamese people... The Americans have come to Viet Nam allegedly in the name of liberty and democracy, but given the fact that I am dragged to a law court in my present physical condition, no liberty and democracy profession can cover up American neo-colonialism... Nixon has robbed the South Vietnamese people of their sovereignty."

Answering foreign journalists' questions on her detention and on what she had done for peace and for women's rights, Mrs Ngo Ba Thanh said: "I was arrested together with Miss Tran Thi Lan. They tortured me by plunging my body into water, once for a whole night, and that is why I am suffering so badly from asthma and heart trouble. They put me in many jails where I was put to torture."

The press conference ended upon a new fit.

The trial of Mrs Ngo Ba Thanh, Tran Thi Lan, and students and other patriots only exposes the US quisling regime as a dictatorship which is destroying every democratic freedom in South Viet Nam. They also illustrate its utter weakness and alarm in front of the militancy of the fighters for independence and peace.

the right road

Dear Vinh,

I have just received your letter and I am glad to know that you are in good health. As you have enquired after Uncle Ba, I'll tell you something about him and those sharing his fate. You are perhaps not aware that after his abortive desertion, Uncle Ba was sent to Vung Tau for corvee duty. But when the Saigon Third Division was set up he was again drafted into the army and transferred to Quang Tri.

Upon learning of this news, Uncle Ba and 2,000 other soldiers went over the hill. Most of them succeeded, while Uncle Ba was three times recaptured. When I called on him, he was very sad abouf his fate as a US-Thieu mercenary.

As you know, the Third Division was established and dubbed "Ben Hai" Division under Nixon's "Vietnamization."

Although it has been shored up by the US-Thieu with money, weapons and survivors of the moribund second Regiment routed in the Highway 9 — Southern Laos campaign, after five months of "replenishment and build up" it is still frail and weak, Uncle Ba said. The ten-point national unity policy of the revolution has made a deep impression on its officers and men by opening a way out for them.

"We have harmed the people and the revolution," a great number of them said, "and this has been nagging at our conscience. Now that the revolution has shown great compassion for us and put forward the generous ten-point policy to save us, we must show our appreciation of it."

A fairly widespread rash of desertions, protests against die hard commanders, requests to go home for Tet, disobedience to orders to raid and loot the people broke out in succession. "Why die for the US-Thieu who have been trounced on the battlefield?", some men bluntly told their superiors. Many soldiers and junior officers thus flouted the all-leave cancelling decision and made for home to spend their Tet there. Some companies were down to one-third under strength.

Dear Vinh,

On the 5th last, a bully of a captain was beat up by his men, then on February 25 a tough sergeant was shot lame at the division airfield while brutalizing his men. These lessons have opened the officers' eyes, for sure.

How could they expect that for all their money and weapons they should get in such a mess? The division has lost 60 per cent of its strengh through desertions and the remainder are but conscripts between 16 and 50 years old just transferred from the militia.

Now the common talk from officers to the rank and file is that "The Thieu gang will be defeated, the Front will carry the day." Many soldiers inflict wounds upon themselves to be allowed to stay in their base camp. On top of this, the lack of equipment is pretty severe. Out of the 46 M. 118 cars left by the withdrawing Americans for the 20th Armoured squadron at Ai Tu, there remain only 12 in working order. And the movement against the replenishment of the Third Division is running high throughout Quang Tri...

Yours for ever,

HONG LIEN

BIG VICTORY OF THE PLAF ON QUANG TRI - THUA THIEN:

- 6,500 enemy wiped out or captured
- 110 artillery pieces shattered
- 45 planes downed
- 100 tanks and armoured cars gutted

FROM March 30 to April 3 1972, in their big offensive against the enemy on the Quang Tri — Thua Thien front, the South Viet Nam People's Liberation Armed Forces wiped out or captured 6,500 enemy troops, razed thirteen positions, shot down or destroyed forty-five aircraft, captured or destroyed one hundred tanks and armoured cars and sank three war ships, according to *GPA*.

The agency gave the following details:

On March 30, 1972 the South Viet Nam PLAF launched an offensive on many enemy positions south and north of Highway 9 and along Highway One in Quang Tri province. The enemy force in this region comprised the 3rd infantry Division, two marine brigades numbers 147 and 258, two armoured columns numbers 11 and 20, seven battalions of artillery pieces from the 105 mm to 175 mm calibres. Besides, there were more than 70 "civil guard" companies. They were positioned in many heavily fortified strongholds, clusters of strongholds on high peaks and along the communication lines. There were also many artillery sites, storage complexes and supply bases and airfields.

Opening the offensive, the PLAF artillery slammed heavy fire on almost all the regiments, brigade and division headquarters of the puppets; artillery sites, strongholds and clusters of strongholds. The PLAF artillery barrages quickly crippled the enemy artillery sites, destroyed many bunkers, supply bases and airfields and headquarters of the enemy.

Then, the PLAF infantry and armoured units of the PLAF in well-coordinated actions, launched simultaneous and powerful assaults on many positions and bases of the enemy.

At Peak 365 about twenty-four kilometres southwest of Quang Tri, the liberation forces quickly overcame the enemy resistance, inflicting heavy losses on the 8th battalion of the 147th marine brigade of the puppets, wiping out or capturing hundreds of troops.

At Peak 544 and the Doi Tron (Round Hill) position close by, the PLAF annihilated almost to a man the 1st battalion of the 2nd regiment, 3rd infantry division.

At Peak 288, four kms east of Peak 544, the liberation forces encircled and continually assaulted the enemy, annihilating a troop concentration of the 56th regiment, 3rd infantry division, capturing many troops and seizing a large quantity of weapons.

At position An Nha, three kms east of Con Tien, the PLAF wiped out a company of the 2nd battalion, 2nd infantry regiment.

During March 31 and April 1st, the PLAF repeatedly attacked and wiped out almost to a man the 4th battalion of the 147th marine brigade at the Dong Toan and Bo Hon positions. They wiped out the 3rd battalion, 56th regiment, 3rd infantry division at Dong Mau, took prisoner many puppet troops including the major commander of this battalion.

Right afterwards, the PLAF intercepted and wiped out the 5th squadron of the 11th armour column moving from Cam Lo to Thien Xuan in an attempt to rescue their battered troops.

At the Con Tien base, the PLAF infantry and artillery attacked the 2nd battalion, 2nd infantry regiment, wiping out many troops.

The major positions of the enemy at Dong Ha, Ai Tu, Mai Loc and Peak 241 came under intense artillery fire of the PLAF. The headquarters of the 3rd infantry division and many of the supply bases were destroyed and burst into flames. The remaining airfields and artillery grounds of the enemy were also destroyed.

In Gio Linh and Cam Lo districts, the three kinds of armed forces of the PLAF together with the local population attacked the enemy unremittingly, encircled them and called on the enemy to surrender wiping out or disbanding five companies and two platoons of "civil guards" at Mai Xa Thi, Ben Ngu, Gio Linh, Xuan Khanh, Quat Xa and Dong Dau.

Combining with the military attacks, the people in the said districts rose up and smashed the coercive machine of the enemy and won back the control of their hamlets. The armed forces of the enemy in many localities joined the people in the uprising. Many "militia" units revolted. All the "popular defence" forces of the enemy have crossed over to the people's side.

Faced with the stormy attack of the liberation forces and the uprising of the people, the remnants of the 2nd regiment and 57th regiment at Doc Mieu, Quan Ngang, Nhi Trung and Bai Son took to their heels. They were hotly pursued by the infantry and armoured units of the PLAF who killed and captured many more enemy troops.

On April 2, the bulk of the 56th regiment of the 3rd puppet infantry division, positioned at Tan Lam and Camp 241 revolted and crossed over to the people, bringing along their arms. The two lieutenant-colonels, commander and deputy commander of this regiment, the regiment staff and many field and captain officers and soldiers of this regiment who joined the people's side were welcomed by the liberation forces.

On April 3, the PLAF attacked and wiped out the remaining troops of the puppet marine brigade 147 at Mai Loc base.

Together with the other services, the PLAF artillerymen and A-A units fought valiantly, shot down or destroyed 45 aircraft of various types.

First reports said that after five days of continual fight from March 30 to April 3, 1972, the South Viet Nam armed forces and people won big victories on the Quang Tri — Thua Thien front. They:

— wiped out or captured 6,500 enemy including nearly 5,500 wiped out and over 1,000 captured. A great number of other troops were disbanded;

— wiped out the 147th brigade and 11th armoured column, put out of action the 56th regiment, heavily decimated the 2nd regiment and the 57th regiment and the 20th armoured column;

— razed 13 positions including 4 regiment HQ and dozens of other positions, destroyed the whole system of airfields and storages in Dong Ha, Ai Tu and La Vang.

— razed 12 sites of 7 artillery battalion, seized or smashed 110 artillery pieces from 105 mm to 175 mm calibres.

— shot down or wrecked 45 aircraft, seized or shattered 100 tanks and armoured cars, and sank 3 vessels.

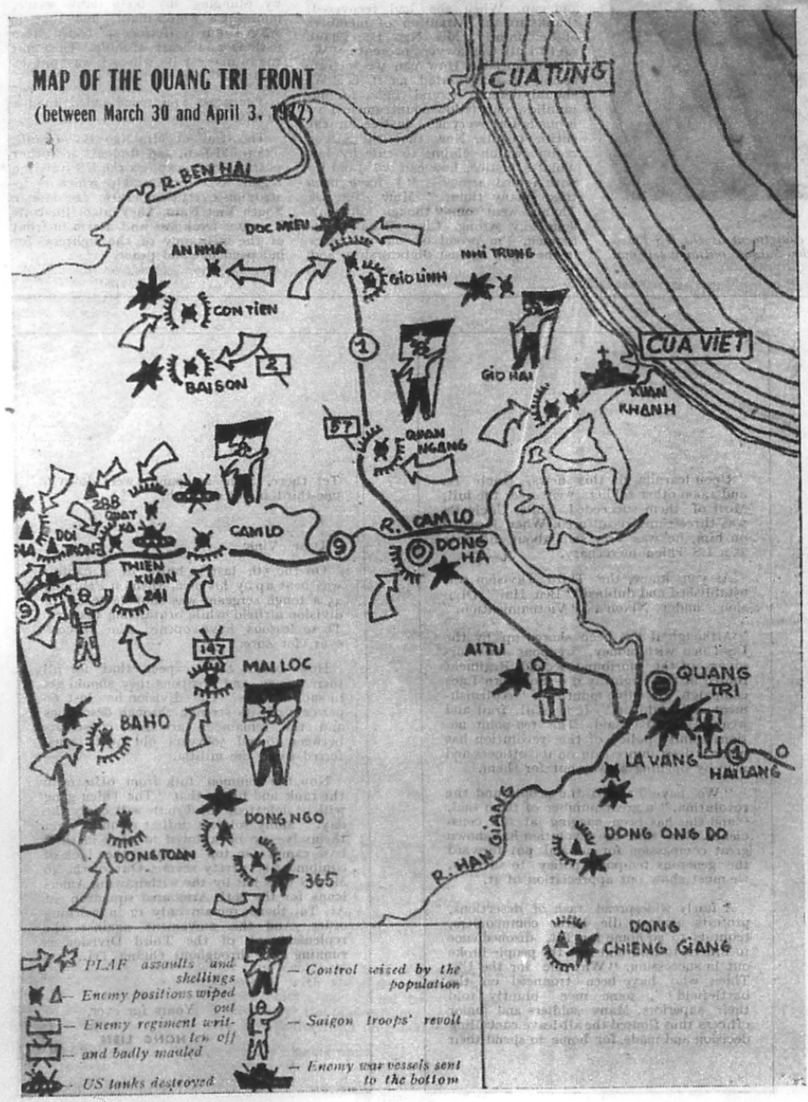
100,000 people in Gio Linh and Cam Lo districts, the Mai Loc concentration camp and other camps rose up to seize control.

The enemy's armed forces in many localities joined the people's uprising. Many puppet "militia" units rose up. The whole "popular defence" force crossed over to the people's side.

Most of the 56th regiment of the puppet 3rd infantry division took anti-war actions.

Many enemy officers and soldiers surrendered.

Fighting is going on.



PLAF fierce annihilation onslaughts

SAIGON 3rd DIVISION CP UNDER FIRE

AI TU is a small village on Highway No 1, 6 miles South of Dong Ha, has had its population removed by the US-Saigon rule and been turned into a military base. Depots and airfields were built and the place was provided with a solid defence perimeter. Recently the CP of the Saigon 3rd division was shifted there for better safety.

This sanctuary of the Saigon forces soon became the selected target by the 1st artillery unit of the PLAF which had received orders to move its batteries forward and wait for further instructions.

Dang, the unit's deputy commander, and Hai, its deputy political commissar, had to take turns in guiding their guns inch by inch through thick mud. On some road sections trees had to be felled to pave the way for the pulling vehicle, or new paths had to be cleared. After several days' exertions all the artillery pieces were assembled in the appointed place. Then their emplacements had to be erected while the unit's commander Le and political commissar Nguyen led a reconnaissance team through the jungle for a close look at the targets.

From where he was standing, Le had a clear view of Ai Tu below him: spreading over 3 miles each side, it lay between two rivers — Thach Han river and Ai Tu river — and was crossed by both the railway and Highway No 1. Le asked everyone to carefully camouflage himself and to calculate the range of each target. Wholeheartedly assisted by members of another friendly reconnaissance team and using experience drawn from previous assignments, Le's men quickly located the adverse commanding post, garrisons, signal center, depots and main artillery emplacements...

In the meantime our artillery and infantry had assaulted the enemy in many places. As adverse remnants were seen fleeing from the north to Ai Tu post, Le and Nguyen urged their comrades to complete their preparations as rapidly as possible, lest the opportunity might be missed.

Everything now was ready and the whole unit was all in a suspense. From time to time, a helicopter ferried a batch of enemy soldiers to Hue, which made our men more fretful. Toward noon, a convoy fully loaded with ammunition rolled in. At noon sharp (April 2, 1972) as the enemy was busy preparing their retreat from Ai Tu, with vehicles and men busily moving up and down, the PLAF artillery unit received orders to open fire. In no time salvoes of big shells tore through the air and landed on the enemy post, and columns of thick smoke rose from the depots and the edge of the airfield amidst deafening explosions. Then a huge snowwhite mushroom rose front the very centre of Ai Tu post, accompanied by flashes of lightning and earth-shaking detonations which sent flying whole sheets of corrugated iron.

After hitting the number one target, our unit's commander ordered the continued shelling of the depots, signal centre and commanding post.

The fire rose higher and higher and the explosions became ever more frightening. The enemy base was shaken to its very foundations, its radar facilities were blasted away while the cosy cottage of the base commander collapsed. Enemy troops fled in panic, some dived into the Thach Han river to cross over to Tan Xuan village...

Two US planes tried to reach our units emplacements, but they were barred by a devastating flak from our AA pieces. They turned tail at full speed and our guns kept pounding away.

An immense sea of fire and smoke shrouded an area of several square miles and at 3 p.m. big bursts of enemy bomb and shell depots could still be heard.

TRAN QUANG

Offensives and uprisings

(Continued from page 1)

In closely concerted actions with the liberation forces our people in Cam Lo and Gio Linh rose up en masse, investing enemy garrisons, suppressing cruel agents and helping hunt adverse remnant troops. It happened that they encircled groups of no less than ten tanks and talked whole companies into surrender. To rise up and seize control over the territory has become a primary objective of ours on the political front, a necessary factor which contributes to the disintegration of regional enemy forces and the breaking bit by bit of the Saigon administration at the grassroot level.

Our successes in Quang Tri and Thua Thien, the Western Plateaux, Eastern Nam Bo and Central Trung Bo, once again show the strong, winning posture of our army and people, and eloquently illustrate the enemy's weak, losing one. The Americans and their valets pinned high hopes on their military strength, fortifications and artillery, armour and air support, but clearly, their apparent power was not of any use to them in coping with the efficient offensives of our armed forces and the shattering uprisings of our people.

Valiant and undaunted, with a high sense of purpose, imaginative and resourceful, our people and army moreover enjoy the benefit of a clever leadership and wholehearted aid from their northern kith-and-kin, support and assistance from friends the world over, which has helped them stand up to the hardest trials and achieve tremendous successes in all war theatres. The latter have tipped the balance of forces more and more in their favour.

MORE than ever the American aggressors and their henchmen are confronted with mounting troubles. US troops are forced to go on withdrawing despite defeats of the quisling army. Cut down from over half a million to about a hundred thousand men, they have wrought a far-reaching change which has deprived the Saigon army of its mainstay, diminished its capabilities and sagged its morale. Worse still, its setbacks are occurring at a time when the Nixon administration is meeting with unprecedented difficulties on the political, economic and diplomatic planes, and the Thieu clique utterly weakened and isolated.

The situation is developing favourably to us, unfavourably to the enemy. Our position is improving while theirs is declining. We hold the initiative, while they find themselves in a passive and perplex posture. We will strengthen our vantage point to launch more potent onslaughts and uprisings, eliminate cruel agents, smash the adverse grip and seize control over more extensive areas.

Vietnamization has visited untold sufferings on our people. The pacification program has been piling up fiendish crimes. Instead of abandoning their aggressive intention while in a losing posture, the American imperialists are resorting to cunning ploys to protract and expand the war, thus leaving to our people no other alternative than rising up to drive out the Yankees, topple Thieu and achieve independence and freedom.

OUR entire people, our entire army will make the greatest efforts and combine offensives and uprisings as best they can in order to foil Nixon's Vietnamization. They will hold high their independence and freedom banner and join forces with the fraternal peoples of Cambodia and Laos in dispelling Nixon's and his confederates' wild illusion of securing a position of strength in deescalation, and of prolonging and widening the war while forced to carry out troops withdrawal. Radiant perspectives are in front of us. By giving full play to revolutionary heroism, surmounting all hardships and sufferings and courageously marching forward, we will surely get the better of the US imperialists' aggressive war and wrest back independence and freedom.

SOUTH VIET NAM

A POEM OF THE BA NAR NATIONALITY

Our Beloved Combatant

Thou comest from the Lowlands
Not from this part of the country.
Thou art a Kinh (1)
not a man from these Highlands,
but infinite is thy love for the country.
Thou hast come to this part of the country
to help crush the enemy,
and bring back joy and life.

And here thou art in this part of the country,
Where everything is different:
Different the mounts,
Different the soil,
But with all thy heart,
Thou workest hard
to help thy brothers,
and of the local customs thou art respectful.
Will you have some fish?
To the brook thou runest.
Will you have some game?
To the forest thou runest.
And the frogs thou fishest
When comes the season of rain.

To-morrow away thou wilt go
By the meandering trail.
And we, girls of the village,
We'll feel much, much regret.
And we'll follow thy steps
On the meandering trail.
We won't be able to see thee,
But in the bottom of our hearts
We'll cherish the hope of thy return.

Translated by
NGUYEN DINH

(1) Vietnamese majority.

Peasants in the Liberated Zone

FIERCE strikes have been mounted by the US-Thieu clique against the liberated zone in an effort to dislodge the population, under their rural "pacification" program. For all their terror, they still fail to break the will of South Vietnamese peasants to cling to their land, protect their homes and increase production.

In the Mekong Delta provinces like My Tho, Ben Tre, An Giang, Kien Phong, Kien Tuong, Rach Gia and Ca Mau, the peasants have not only put the whole acreage of their land under cultivation but also stepped up the clearing of virgin land and reclamation of waste land, and multiplied crops. Last year in the 4 provinces Kien Phong, Kien Tuong, My Tho and Ben Tre alone, another 300,000 hectares of land were put under rice, potato and manioc and early rice was grown on more than 85,000 hectares. In many localities of My Tho and Ben Tre provinces where ricefields and orchards have been badly damaged by enemy bombs and toxic chemicals, the local inhabitants have worked against time and farmed 15,000 hectares of rice more than the previous year while maintaining and even developing animal husbandry and fish rearing. Revolutionary power in these provinces has distributed some 1,000 hectares of ricefields to the peasants, provided them with farm implements and other facilities, and sent technical workers to villages and hamlets to assist them in the application of advanced techniques. People of Kien Phong and Kien Tuong provinces have also succeeded in reclaiming waste land and growing rice and dry crops on another 12,000 hectares of land.

In Central Trung Bo, a flood-stricken area and a key point under the US-Thieu relocation plan, the inhabitants, while putting up a stiff resistance to forcible transfer, have surpassed the planned targets for food production. In the provinces of Binh Thuan, Binh Dinh, Phu Yen, Quang Da and Quang Ngai, the cultivated acreage is 25% larger than in 1970, and short-term dry crops have been raised on some 1,000 hectares of newly-reclaimed land.

By now, various ethnic groups in the Western Highlands in the main have given up their nomadic life. They have adopted the wet field technique and abandoned their milpa practice. Although the acreage of ricefields was to some extent smaller than the previous years, yet thanks to expert assistance in the application of new techniques to some farm work, both crops obtained in 1971 still yielded twice as much as in 1970. In Kontum, Western Binh Thuan and Western Quang Ngai, on an average each household keeps 3 pigs, one sow and many head of poultry. In a number of villages and districts in these provinces, the inhabitants have become self-sufficient in cloth and farm tools and produced enough household utensils for their use.

By the end of 1971, apart from the existing work-exchange and labour co-operation teams, local revolutionary power and Liberation Peasants' Associations had helped set up another 200,000 such teams. With collective farming, the peasants in South Viet Nam's liberated zone find it feasible to apply new techniques to agricultural production on a wide scale. In 1971 alone, those in Central and Western Nam Bo dug or dredged over 900 miles of irrigation canals, built thousands of dams against sea water or ditches compartmenting the fields, and turned thousands of bomb craters into water reservoirs for irrigation.

The movement for collective farming in the liberated zone has had an encouraging impact on the struggle waged by people living in areas still under US-Saigon control. In the past year, more than 800,000 people in Western and Central Nam Bo broke away from strategic hamlets and other detention centres and returned to the liberated zone where they joined the local inhabitants in developing production and building thousands more of combat villages. In the last 2 months of 1971, thousands of peasants of Duc Hoa and Ben Luc districts (Long An province) and Tra Vinh province succeeded in returning to their former villages, and transformed the enemy-created no man's land into hundreds of hectares of cropland. Immediately after their liberation from the enemy's grip, tens of thousands of people of Quang Da, Binh Dinh, Phu Yen, Quang Ngai and Darlac provinces took up production and started building and fortifying fighting villages and hamlets.

Along with higher production, people in the provinces of Nam Bo, Central Trung Bo and the Western Highlands have contributed nearly 200,000 tons of rice and over 200 million dong (South Viet Nam currency) to the Resistance Fund. Hundreds of thousands of young people in the liberated zone have joined the Liberation Army or guerilla teams. Many young men and women have left enemy-controlled areas for the liberated zone to serve with the PLAF or join carrier lines. Thousands of people have won the title of model fighter or valiant anti-US combatant.

Through the production campaign and the building of the liberated zone, guerilla warfare has developed in strength and steadiness and the unity bloc in the liberated countryside keeps strengthening. With this strength, peasants in the liberated zone are steadily marching forward.

the DRVN in brief

• President Ton Duc Thang has recently visited some signal units. He was warmly welcomed by their officers and men.

On behalf of the Viet Nam Workers' Party Central Committee and Government, the President commended their endeavour to put into practice President Ho Chi Minh's instructions and recommended them to make greater efforts for steadier progress and new achievements.

• The Prime Minister's office has convened a conference under the chairmanship of Vice-Premier Le Thanh Nghi to discuss the problem of the quality of goods produced in North Viet Nam.

The meeting considered orientations and measures to improve the goods' quality in 3 years' time, studied and contributed many suggestions to the draft regulations on the goods' quality.

• Units of the People's Air Force have launched an emulation drive to intensify the training and increase combativeness and readiness to defeat the enemy in all circumstances in honour of the 7th anniversary of the armed service's first victory (April 3, 1965).

Under the "Win victory when airborne and down enemy aircraft with the first shots" watchword, all the units have drawn experience from past engagements, zealously undergone the training in all circumstances and weather, even on holidays and pledged to fulfil the training program at the earliest date and with the best results possible.

• The Fourth Military Sector has opened training courses for officers and men of the militia and self-defence forces for 1972, to make them ready to fight with efficiency in any circumstances, and at the same time, fully and promptly meet all the requirements of the frontline.

• The Viet Nam-China State Farm in Quang Binh province has obtained a bumper harvest of pepper. Its average output was nearly 3 tons per hectare. In some places, it was up to over 4 tons and in others about 5 tons.

The State Farm has been stepping up the planting and tending of pepper-trees to further raise their output for home consumption and export.

• After 9 years of research, the Viet Nam medical service has recently completed the first Viet Nam pharmacopoeia, a valuable work summing up the results of the research of 109 professors, doctors and pharmacists and 19 medical establishments.

It sets technical norms for medicines, medicinal products and drug-processing.

It is the 8th work of the kind so far published in the socialist countries.

• The 108 Military Hospital has scored initial success in treating people affected by deafness due to bad transmission of sounds in their ears.

The operated area, from 2 to 3 square millimetres, is in the central ear, on the edge of the inner ear.

Many people who have long suffered from the infirmity have regained their hearing after the surgery.

Cambodia :

Violent attacks of the CPNLAF

DURING the last ten days of March, the Cambodian PNLAF violently attacked many enemy positions at Phnom Penh, in Prey Veng, Kompong Cham, Svay Rieng, Siem Reap, Kampot provinces, inflicting to the enemy heavy losses.

With the good co-ordination of the artillery and infantry in their violent attacks in Phnom Penh on the night of March 20 and early the next morning, the CPNLAF hit many military and administrative targets including the Pochentong airport, the puppet National Defense Ministry, the radio station, the HQ of the Phnom Penh Special Sector, and the Police HQ. The patriots killed, wounded or captured over 600 Phnom Penh puppet troops, wiping out, in terms of units, two battalions, one infantry company, and one armoured company. They destroyed 20 military vehicles, many aircraft, storages, technical installations, and six bridges, according to *AKI*.

By simultaneously attacking so many carefully guarded enemy positions in Phnom Penh, the CPNLAF have further proved their victorious and offensive position. *AP* on March 21 described the attacks as "the heaviest" so far on the capital city.

In these highly effective attacks, the CPNLAF fighters have also showed their valour, flexibility, excellent tactics and great capability.

In close co-ordination with these attacks, the patriotic forces in the other provinces have also launched the attacks without respite and everywhere against the enemy forces.

Over 40 enemy positions in Prey Veng, Kompong Cham and Svay Rieng provinces were simultaneously hit and 1,000 enemy troops wiped out in the three straight days ending March 21, according to *AKI*.

The CPNLAF set afire 2 ammunition depots, wrecked one bridge, 3 tanks, liberated 7 villages and took control of route 15. They also destroyed on the ground many aircraft and seized a large quantity of weapons and war supplies. They eliminated the HQ of the Saigon puppet troops at Neak Luong.

In the five days ending March 27, the CPNLAF put out of combat nearly 200 enemy troops in Kompong Trach, Kampot province.

According to *AKI*, they mauled 3 armour squadrons belonging to the Saigon 12nd Motorized Regiment, destroyed 3 arms and ammunition depots and seized 3 armoured cars and an important quantity of weapons.

Commenting on the highly successful ambush which took place near Kompong Trach on March 24, *UPI* said: "It was the worst setback for the Saigon forces operating in Cambodia since the Southern thrust began in the area earlier this month."

On March 27, the CPNLAF attacked puppet troops in many places, according to Western reports. *UPI* said one of these actions took place at Paing Ksey, 50km south of Phnom Penh. It quoted the puppet military command as saying that fighting continued into the night and the liberation forces were pursuing Lon Nol's troops. The agency further reported that early March 28 the CPNLAF poured 100 rounds of artillery into an armoured base of the Saigon troops along route 3 in Cambodia, 75 miles south of Phnom Penh.

These attacks, coming in the midst of a serious politico-military crisis in Phnom Penh, have driven the US imperialists and the Lon Nol, Sirik Matak, Son Ngoc Thanh clique into greater confusion and contradictions.

Laos:

Over 1,500 enemy eliminated in 20 days

IN the first twenty days of March, the Lao people and patriotic armed forces killed, wounded or captured more than **1,500** enemy troops, mostly Thai mercenaries, according to *KPL*. They seized or destroyed hundreds of firearms including fourteen 105 or 155mm cannon and heavy mortars, shot down or wrecked on the ground 24 war planes, and destroyed 8 military vehicles and a large quantity of other military equipment.

In the three days ending March 13, they killed, wounded or captured more than 750 enemy, mostly Thai and Vang Pao troops, putting to rout 4 Thai battalions and one Vang Pao "special forces" battalion from Sam Thong.

The Lao liberation forces on the night of March 17 pressed their attacks and killed or injured more than 150 other enemy troops and brought down 3 more war planes.

Meanwhile, they kept bombarding Long Cheng base, destroying several airstrips and supply depots.

Frightened by the powerful offensive of the LPLA, the 31st and 33rd Regiments of the Vang Pao "special forces" sent to the rescue of Long Cheng dared not show up.

The people and armed forces in Kham Moun, Burikhamsay, Vientiane, Luang Nam Tha, Udomsay and Sayabury provinces stepped up the hunt for bandits and spies, and repelled many enemy nibbling attacks on the liberated zone.

The US aggressors and their quislings have failed in their attempt to block the offensive of the Lao liberation armed forces including the helilifting of troops to liberated areas for harassments and massive bombings by B.52 and other planes. The strategic position of the US and puppets in Laos is weakening. This shows that the "Nixon doctrine" in Laos is suffering a heavy setback.

Folksinger Pete Seeger performs for GI's outside the Oleo Strut Coffeehouse in Killeen, Texas

Militant Songs

IN the American people's antiwar movement there are a host of famous artistes such as Jane Fonda, Barbara Dane, Joan Baez, John Denver, Pete Seeger... Their songs have contributed no small part to awakening the Americans' conscience, encouraging them and instilling in them more zeal and greater confidence in the triumph of their cause.

One of them, Pete Seeger, is highly thought of not only for his consummate art but also because his songs and music stir their innermost feelings, express their eager aspirations, lay bare the craftiness of the reactionary bosses of the White House and the Pentagon, and guide their actions...

For many years Pete Seeger has sung for Viet Nam's sake. In 1965, when the first GIs landed en masse in Da Nang, his song "The Rifles" echoed the Vietnamese people's same stern warning to the aggressors as the American people's to the British colonialists 200 years ago. Although threatened, misrepresented and slandered by the US authorities who brought him to court under the charge of "composing and performing anti-war songs," Pete Seeger continues to create songs and use his well-known banjo with the famous anti-war inscription as well as his guitar which never leaves him and his stirring and warm songs to press for the US administration's ending its criminal war in Viet Nam. Today, the image of this American singer performing before anti-war GIs, anti-draft youths and tormented mothers... such songs as "Let the Sun Radiate Its Light", "Call Home the GIs Now", "The Last Ship to Nuremberg", "King Henry", "The Land of Joe McDonald"... has become familiar not only to the American people but also to the peoples of many countries in the world, including those for whom he wholeheartedly sings—the South Vietnamese people.

Peter Seeger has developed a precocious love for art and music as well as for the down-drodden. Over the past 30 years, he has travelled the length and breadth of the United States, from the Southern plantations to the Northern industrial zones, from Black ghettos to university campus, ports, wharves.., wherever there is a protest against oppression, exploitation, racial discrimination and war. This road of art for freedom, justice and peace has also taken him to nearly 40 countries in the world: Cuba, the Soviet Union, the German Democratic Republic, India, Japan... Recently, his songs have resounded in the very land of his predilection: Viet Nam. There is no doubt that these powerful songs, those of progressive America, in harmony with the great choir *Liberate the South* of the Vietnamese people and of the whole progressive mankind will contribute to dispel the nightmarish shadow of cruel US imperialism and its criminal war in this part of the world.

THE THIRD WORLD IN EFFERVESCENCE

THAILAND: Patriotic forces foiled a large-scale sweep mounted by the reactionary Thanom-Praphas clique from March 9 to 24 in Phitsanulok, Phetsaboul and Leui provinces. Luring them deep into the territory under their control, the patriots encircled them, killed or wounded 122, and destroyed or damaged 13 aircraft.

PALESTINE: An Israeli spokesman admitted: on March 16, a military vehicle ran on land mines laid by Palestinian guerillas near Karmiel south west of Galilee. 3 soldiers were killed and 5 others injured.

MOZAMBIQUE: In ambushes in the first two months of 1972 the patriotic forces knocked out 77 Portuguese soldiers, wounded many others, downed an aircraft and destroyed 8 vehicles.

ZIMBABWE: From Jan. 1 to 11, some 10,000 people went on strike and demonstrated all over the country against the agreement signed by Great Britain and Rhodesia's racist rule.

When a British delegation landed at the Salisbury airport on Jan. 11 in an inspection tour to supervise the implementation of the agreement, 200 Africans demonstrated, displaying banners with these slogans: "No sell-out of Zimbabwe!", "Power to the African majority!" The reactionary Smith administration repressed the demonstrators with police aircraft and hounds and arrested many of them. Other parades and working people's walkouts erupted, like the rally of 8,000 Africans at Gwelo, 200 km south-west of Salisbury.

COLOMBIA: Drives for better living conditions and democratic freedoms flared up recently in many parts of the country. Students' actions took place in Barbosa, Papayan, Neiva, Santa Clara and Cali. Particularly remarkable was the gathering, at Medellin University, after a many-day strike in which the participants demanded the dismissal of the head of the law department, a reactionary appointed some time earlier.

8,000 teachers in Colombia went on strike on Feb. 22, for higher pay and better working conditions.

Peasants in Marda, Boliva and Meta provinces mounted resolute actions and occupied hundreds of hectares of land.

URUGUAY: On Feb. 14 patriotic forces broke into the town of Sorca 50 km from Montevideo, seized the police and telephone stations, killed police and captured 7 rifles and a tommy gun.

— *A photo setting by* L. Visen

— *American peace fighters*

in brief ★ in brief ★ in brief ★ in brief ★ in brief

• The Korea — Mongolia, Romania — People's Republic of Congo, Romania — Central African Republic, Romania — Zambia joint communiqués have re-affirmed solidarity with, and support for, the Indochinese peoples, condemned the US aggressive war in Indochina and demanded the immediate and unconditional withdrawal of all American and allied troops from Indochina.

• The 12th Congress of Transport and Communication Workers' Trade Unions and 9th Congress of Maritime Workers' Trade Unions in the Soviet Union have unanimously adopted resolutions voicing firm support for the anti-US resistances of the 3 Indochinese peoples and scoring the US imperialists' criminal aggression in Indochina.

"The US imperialists' bombs and shells," the resolution of the former Conference pointed out, "cannot break the Vietnamese, Lao and Cambodian peoples' fighting spirit, and the wider the aggressive war, the ever fiercer blows the US imperialists receive from the 3 Indochinese peoples."

• The Polish TV gave on March 23 night a special show entitled "The Black Pages in the White Book" (of the Committee for Denunciation of the US-Saigon Crimes in South Viet Nam), denouncing to the Polish and world peoples the heinous crimes perpetrated by the US imperialists in their aggressive war in Viet Nam.

With vivid illustrations, the show proved that Nixon's "Vietnamization" of the war is only aimed at silencing the opposition, deceiving public opinion with the withdrawal of a number of troops and their replacement by millions of Saigon troops and the increased use of war means and technique.

• At an interview on March 22 with Nguyen Van Tien, special envoy of the RSVN PRG, Premier Abdou Diouf of the Senegalese Republic, declared: "The Senegalese government and people back the South Vietnamese people's legitimate struggle and approve the PRG position as sound way to realize peace, independence, freedom, neutrality and national concord for South Viet Nam."

• The 60th Congress of the French Students' Union sitting in Paris from March 21 to 23 expressed without a dissentient voice full support for the Indochinese peoples' efforts, the RSVN PRG 7-point proposal and 2-point clarification for a peaceful settlement of the Viet Nam issue and strongly condemned US war intensification in Indochina and sabotage of the Paris Conference on Viet Nam.

On the night of March 22, over 900 student delegates of France and 14 other countries participating in the "soiree of solidarity with the Indochinese peoples" passed a petition to the Saigon authorities' representative in Paris against the arrests of, and terror against, patriotic students and pupils in South Viet Nam, and for the immediate release of Huynh Tan Mam, President of the Saigon General Union of Students, and others still detained by them.

• Many Ceylonese Trade-Union and youth organizations and the Ceylon-Viet Nam Friendship Association have recently issued statements backing the Vietnamese people's resistance. The March 18 statement of the Ceylonese Transport Workers' Trade Unions said: "The Vietnamese people have dealt deadly blows at the US imperialists, the most dangerous and brutal enemy of mankind. The Vietnamese people's fight not only defends their national independence but also decisively contributes to foil the Nixon doctrine of pitting the Indochinese against Indochinese and Asians against Asians."

• The 5th Congress of the Moroccan Federation of Trade Unions published on March 21 a statement pledging solidarity with the Indochinese fighting against the US imperialists' aggression.

• At a meeting in Copenhagen on the night of March 25, a resolution was passed which completely rejected Nixon's 8-point proposal, wholeheartedly backed the 7-point proposal and February 2 statement of the RSVN PRG, and insisted that Nixon fix a precise deadline for the total pull-out of US troops and war materials from South Viet Nam, respect the South Vietnamese people's right to self-determination and let down Nguyen Van Thieu.

IN THE US

— The National Peace Action Coalition (NPAC) has published an open letter calling on the American people to take part in the parades to be held on April 22 next in New York and Los Angeles for an end to the Indochina war and the prompt repatriation of American troops.

After baring Nixon's "prisoners' week" trick, the letter stressed that NPAC had been constantly upholding the Vietnamese people's right to self-determination, and held that Thieu's dictatorial regime is a US puppet. The NPAC's demand for the quick US troop pullout from South Viet Nam has constantly reflected this viewpoint. It does not support the Thieu quisling regime and the setting up in Indochina of a government of the US choice.

— Delegates of many trade unions and mass organizations in several places of the US on March 26 paraded near the White House and urged that Nixon withdraw at once all GIs from Indochina and end all the bombings of, and attacks on, the Indochinese countries.

SOUTH VIET NAM CENTRAL ORGAN OF THE SOUTH VIET NAM NATIONAL FRONT FOR LIBERATION